

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
('AHA KULA HO'ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
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FOR: SCR62 Requesting the United States Secretary of Agriculture to Increase the Federal Breakfast, Lunch, and Afterschool Snack Reimbursement Rates for Hawaii

DATE: Monday, April 27, 2015

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Education

ROOM: Conference Room 229

FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit this written testimony in strong support of this resolution.

Many of Hawaii's public charter schools report that they struggle or are altogether unable to participate in the federal school lunch program because the rate of reimbursement is so inadequate to cover the cost of providing meals. In addition, some charter schools previously had contracted with the Department of Education (DOE) for meals, but in 2013 the DOE discontinued this vending relationship out of operational and costs considerations, except as to charter schools that share a facility with a DOE school. This Session the Commission had requested a \$5 million appropriation to provide food service facilities at six charter schools to enable more schools to provide meals themselves to their students. A stand-alone measure to accomplish the same purpose, Senate Bill 1215 SD1, did not survive the crossover deadline.

The Commission currently is participating on a Hawaii working group convened by Hawaii Appleseed on behalf of the DOE to conduct an analysis on the actual cost of school meals in Hawaii and explore the possibility of increasing the federal rate of reimbursement. This effort appears very promising.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui



Coordinated through The Kohala Center

TESTIMONY
House Committee on Finance
April 27, 2015, 2:00 p.m.

Kaua'i

Tiana Kamen
Farm to Keiki Preschool Program

Keone Kealoha
*Mālama Kaua'i
Kaua'i School Garden Network*

O'ahu

Hunter Heavilin
O'ahu Farm to School Network

Natalie McKinney
Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation

Debbie Millikan
Iolani School

Elysa Ermatinger
Hoa 'Āina O Makaha

Mahealani Matsuzaki
*Kamehameha Schools
'Āina-Based Education*

Terri Langley
MA'O Organic Farms

Jayne Grzebik
*University of Hawai'i
Master Gardeners*

Moloka'i

Harmonee Williams
*Sustainable Moloka'i
Moloka'i School Garden Network*

Mauī & Lana'i

Lehn Huff
Mauī & Lana'i School Garden Network

Nio Kindla & Kirk Surry
Grow Some Good

Hawai'i Island

Nancy Redfeather & Donna Mitts
*The Kohala Center
Hawai'i Island School Garden Network*

Statewide

Jennifer Ryan & Leimomi Dierks
Hawai'i Department of Health

Dexter Kishida
Hawai'i Department of Education, SFSB

Jennifer Dang
Hawai'i Department of Education, HCNP

Lillian Coltin
Hawai'i Department of Education

Andrea Snow
FoodCorps

Pacific Region

Dr. Koh Ming Wei
Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

SCR62: REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO INCREASE THE FEDERAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND AFTERSCHOOL SNACK REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui **strongly supports SCR62.**

Formed in 2010, the Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui is a statewide network comprised of five island-level networks, along with representatives of the Hawai'i Departments of Education and Health, whose mission is to strengthen Hawai'i's statewide farm to school and school garden movement.

An increase in the federal reimbursement rates for school food is of great importance to the creation of a vibrant farm to school program for Hawai'i by enabling the Hawai'i Department of Education School Food Services Branch to procure a greater percent of its food from locally grown sources.

Mahalo nui loa for hearing this resolution and for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lydi Morgan Bernal
Coordinator
Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui
schoolgardenhui@kohalacenter.org
www.hawaiischoolgardenhui.org



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, April 27, 2015 — 2:00 p.m. — Room 308

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SCR 62, Requesting the United States Secretary of Agriculture to Increase the Federal Breakfast, Lunch, and Afterschool Snack Reimbursement Rates for Hawaii

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

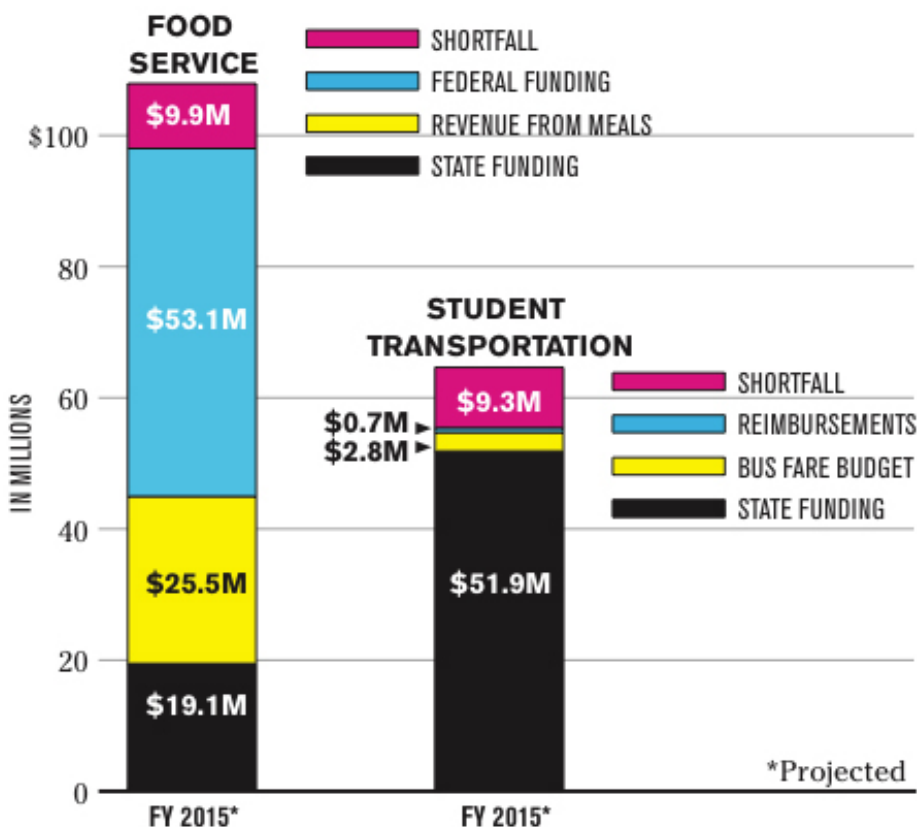
My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment company that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase clean, renewable energy, and waste reduction. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity, and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports SCR 62, because it aligns with our goal of providing more locally produced food. One of the most important ways to grow local agriculture is to get more local food into schools. This will garner awareness and interest of local foods to generate future demand as those kids grow and eventually enter the workforce, provide for healthy and nutritious foods for our local children as they learn, create new farmers to lower the average age of 60 years old for a farmer in Hawai'i, and create an additional marketplace for local farmers to earn revenue. However, purchasing local food will require additional funding. Currently, the school lunch budget for the Department of Education is funded about half via federal funds, a quarter is earned from meal fees, and the remaining quarter (about \$29 million) comes from the State of Hawai'i.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

DOE SHORTFALL

The Department of Education is projecting shortfalls in its school lunch and student bus programs for the current fiscal year. It plans to seek a \$19 million boost from the Legislature to cover the costs.



Source: Department of Education

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This means any additional federal funds can both allow more increased local food purchases and could reduce the shortfall the State would need to cover. As the State's funding is limited, any additional federal funds can help open funding for other local needs.

Furthermore, local food purchases have a multiplier effect on the local economy.

Table 3. Economic multipliers for selected food and agricultural industries, Hawai'i.

	Multipliers			
	Output (sales)	Earnings	State tax	Employment
Beef	1.90	0.51	0.063	24.20
Pork	1.90	0.51	0.063	24.20
Eggs	1.90	0.51	0.063	24.20
Fresh milk	1.90	0.51	0.063	24.20
Fresh fruits	1.95	0.58	0.075	31.20
Fresh vegetables	2.06	0.54	0.078	26.30

Source: The 2005 State of Hawaii Input-Output Study, August 2008, DBEDT.

Note: Beef, pork, eggs and milk are represented by a single sector in the 2005 Input-Output Model.

For example, an additional \$1 million in local fresh vegetable purchases will produce:

- \$2,060,000 in total economic activity in Hawai'i (from the actual direct purchase of vegetables plus the indirect ripple effect of additional input purchases such as water, seeds, energy and additional worker spending due to wages received from increased employment)
- \$540,000 in earnings for the vegetable farmer
- \$78,000 in additional state tax revenue
- An increase of 26.3 local jobs

If Hawai'i were to receive its appropriate allocation under the pre-determined formula, Hawai'i would receive additional tens of millions of dollars for school food purchases. We urge this committee to adopt this resolution to urge the federal government to increase the reimbursement rates for Hawai'i.

We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production. We believe that by collaborating we can help produce more local food, support an economically strong homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2015 9:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR62 on Apr 27, 2015 14:00PM

SCR62

Submitted on: 4/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 27, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: This increase is absolutely necessary to further develop a healthy and locally sourced school lunch program. Our reimbursement should be on par with Alaska. We face the same hardships of distance and isolation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

LATE

Date: 04/27/2015
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 062 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO INCREASE THE FEDERAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND AFTERSCHOOL SNACK REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII.

Purpose of Resolution: The Department of Education supports SCR 062, requesting the United States Department of Agriculture to increase federal reimbursement rates for Hawaii.

According to a March 2012 US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service report, Hawaii acquired 405 food items for an estimated total of \$28.7 million in SY 2009/10. Of the total dollar value, 85.5 percent were commercially purchased foods.

In terms of value, fruits and juices was the largest food group purchased in Alaska (20.4 percent), followed by milk and dairy products (15.7 percent). In Hawaii, milk and dairy products represented the largest food group (31.2 percent) followed by poultry (14 percent) and fruits and juices (13.5 percent). Bakery products held only a small share in Hawaii because the individual schools bake their own bread and bread products. The share of milk and other dairy products was particularly high in Hawaii, 31.2 percent, compared to 22 percent in the 48 states and 16 percent in Alaska. Milk and other dairy products held a particularly high share in Hawaii - 31 percent in value terms and almost half the volume of all food acquisitions (48 percent).

The additional federal funds sought could potentially decrease the amount of general funds required for working capital and minimize the frequency of increasing meal prices.

Department's Position:

Supports